

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 22, 2002 LB 898, 905, 947, 1085, 1309, 1310

this and think about what it's done. Unlike the Governor, I'm going to mention what I intend to do and I'll do it. If any of these amendments, if you don't vote to send this bill back to committee, I'm going to vote to...I'm going to ask for a division of the question on every amendment which is divisible. I'm going to seek to amend amendments if you attach the committee amendment, but we'll probably never get to that point. So what I'm going to have to do is make sure that everybody's amendment is thoroughly discussed. Whether it's voted up or down, I'm going to be on the prevailing side so I can reconsider to make sure that we are well aware of the full implications of everything that we do. We have a large number of days left. According to this yellow sheet, this is the 42nd day. That leaves 18 days...wait a minute, I'm looking at the wrong paper. This is the 44th day. If we don't do anything else on any of these kinds of bills, just pass LB 1310, LB 1309, LB 898, LB 947, LB 905, that's enough damage because we're coming back for a special session anyway. LB 1305, or whatever this is, is not going to...LB 1085, is not going to succeed in doing anything other than giving us a chance to posture. It will give Senator Brashear, the patriarch of Stepford, an opportunity to push his plan which is doomed to failure because I have it in my cross hairs. I have enough torpedoes to sink that ship, and I'm going to do it because as soon as his amendment comes before us, I'm going to divide the question. That means every single item he intends to try to remove an exemption on or place a sales tax on, we're going to take it individually. And if the body becomes perverse enough to tell the Speaker or whoever is in the chair, we're not going to let you divide the question, and if whoever is in the chair succumbs to that, then I will just try to eliminate each one. And if the committee amendment hasn't been adopted yet, then I'll just try to reconsider. But I won't have to go that far because we're going to run out of time and people are going to run out of patience. But you let the Governor and the business community put you into this bind. I'm not going to go along. Some of you will be upset with what I'm doing and say that I ought not do it, that I ought to knuckle under and swallow spit for the business community, as you all have done. We're in this bind because the Revenue Committee took a proposition that the Governor brought after getting a lot of publicity about what he was going to do and saying how